

January—February
2017

Volume 20, Issue 01

2017 Schedule of Meetings:

Mar. 1st, **Apr. 5th 6:30 p.m.** (20th Anniversary dinner off-site), May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, Aug. 2nd, Sept. 6th, Oct. 4th, Nov. 1st, and Dec. 6th.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., meeting starts 7 p.m., at the Rockwood Public Library (inside Eramosa Community Centre) at 85 Christie Street (near corner Christie Street and Main Street North Wellington Road 27, Rockwood, On. NoB 2K0.

2017 Annual Membership Fee:

Regular \$10
Couple \$12
Junior (14 to age 18) \$5
Under 14 Free

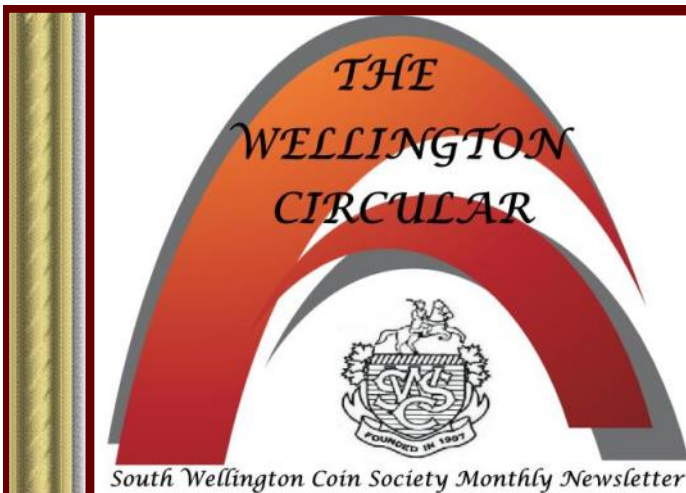
Membership / Treasurer Contact:

c/o: Scott Douglas, 273 Mill St. E., Acton, On. L7J 1J7,

Ph: (519) 853-3812,
E-mail: sdouglas333@gmail.com

Inside this issue:

Club Report & News	3-5
Hungarian 5 Pengo	5
Out of Mouths of Babes	6
Pitis of Palembang	7
Did You Know....	9
Spring Show Flyer	11
20th Anniversary Flyer	12



NEXT MEETING DATE:
WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 1ST, 2017
DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.
MEETING STARTS
****7 P.M.****
THEME:
INCOME TAX & COIN
COLLECTING

Editor's Message

Our next meeting is **Ash Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 AT **7 P.M.** (DOORS OPEN 6 P.M.)! Scott Douglas will present a PPT from the North Shore Numismatic Society on *Income Tax & Coin Collecting*. Here's wishing all our members, families and friends a super 2017!**

IMPORTANT STEPS FOR MARCH MEETING: ensure if you have not yet replied, that you let Scott know if you are attending our Anniversary Dinner in April. If you have not yet renewed for 2017, be sure to do so, the April dinner is for PAID UP members, and you won't want to miss out on the surprises your executive has planned for this event!!! Buy a Daytona ticket, there is still one \$90-95 prize in play.

There are many positive changes to the Ontario Numismatic Convention (Friday, April 21 -April 23, 2017). The main registration kit has dropped back to \$25, banquet tickets have been reduced to \$35 (Scott Hopkins is the Keynote Speaker, Rick Dupuis is our Master of Ceremonies), and the ONA promises a big increase in the number of banquet door prizes. Scott Douglas is organizing another terrific Educational Symposium (Ron Cheek, Steve Bell and Mike Hollingshead). Once again there will be fun kids events too! This year we have new exhibit categories, and updated rules. Registrations are now available, watch ONA website for more convention updates at <http://www.the-ona.ca/>. Register now to qualify for the EARLY BIRD PRIZE DRAW (signed by the designer)! Congratulations to Scott Douglas the NEW incoming President of the ONA to be confirmed at the ONA Annual General Meeting held Sat. Apr. 22nd.



Bring along a friend or two to our next meeting, share the FUN and LAUGHTER!!

This was published in a U.S. coin forum 2014 (re-print) as part of New Year's resolutions made by coin collectors. In reading some coin forums on resolutions for 2017, most are around completing collections, down-sizing, changing what they collect from the mint, attending more shows, and meeting more collectors of the same interest.

What is your 2017 numismatic resolution??

LESS | MORE

TALKING	LISTENING
PLANNING	DOING
SODA	TEA
JUNK FOOD	SALADS
COMPLAINING	ENCOURAGING
WORRYING	HOPING
DOUBTING	BELIEVING
LAZING AROUND	WORKING OUT
FROWNING	SMILING
INSECURITY	TRUST
WEAKNESS	CONFIDENCE
IGNORANCE	UNDERSTANDING
HATE	LOVE
UNGRATEFULNESS	GRATITUDE



South Wellington
Coin Society **founded**
in 1997



Newsletter Editor

Judy Blackman, F.O.N.A.

E-mail:
jblackman@rogers.com

Postal mail:
SWCS –Editor c/o
505 Redfox Rd., Waterloo, On.
N2K 2V6

Send pictures in jpg,
files in doc, xls, pdf,
wpd, or email body.



Articles of the upcoming
newsletters are due to the Editor
by no later than the 15th of the
current month.

Advertising space will be
accommodated where space is
available.

SWCS:
Was founded in March 1997.
This medal was issued 2015.



**SWCS is recipient of
BOTH RCNA Club of
Year and Newsletter of
Year Awards.**



South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

SWCS EXECUTIVE

Term of Office: **July 1, 2015—June 30, 2018 (3 yrs)**

Board of Directors (elected)

(sets officers guidelines, but not involved in day-to-day operations EXCEPT responsible for ALL education programs and looks after ALL contracts for venues and insurance)

Chairman / Director: **Scott Douglas**

Directors: **Mel Brown, Garry George, John Semedo, Lowell Wierstra**
(ljwierstra@rogers.com, **519-824-6534**)

Director Emeritus: **Robert Zmija** (Lifetime Member #1)

Director of Youth Services: **Peter Horne deus** (YN)

Officers (elected)

(run the day-to-day operations)

President: **Scott Douglas**, sdouglas333@gmail.com, **519-853-3812**
(also is club archivist, historian, and looks after medals)

Past-President: **John Semedo**, johnsemedo99@gmail.com, **519-821-6379**

Vice-President: **Mike Hollingshead**, cholling@uoguelph.ca, **519-823-2646**

Treasurer: **Scott Douglas**

(includes all revenues generated from membership dues, meeting, and shows; and looks after advertising)

Secretary: **Judy Blackman**, jblackman@rogers.com
(includes flyers, other club notices, newsletters, public website liaison, private website webmaster, executive agendas and minutes)

Other Non-Elected IMPORTANT Club Roles

ALL Multi-Media Needs: **John Semedo**

ALL Draws and Membership Meeting Notes: **John Semedo** and **Mike Hollingshead**

Show Bourse: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Lowell Wierstra**

Auction Chairman: **Lowell Wierstra**

Auctioneers: **Mike Hollingshead** and **Scott Douglas**
Auction Runners: available executive and other members.

“Giving Back to Community” Liaison:
Heather Hoddinott

Hospitality, Mall Days and Kids’ Programs & Mentors:
Mel Brown and **Charles Turton**

Meeting Room Set-up and Clean-up:
All members present



Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead, John Semedo, and Scott Douglas

Here's SWCS Dec. 7th Draws and Accolades:

Renewal Draw: The *Thank You for Promptly Paying Your 2017 Dues* Draw was a one-year subscription to the Canadian Coin News, won by **John Semedo**. It pays to get your news in on time!

The Membership Draw: Member **Dwayne Spears** won \$10, and next month's draw will be for back \$5. Be there to win or be square!

King Arthur's Treasure: KAT was a 114 item equivalent and won by **Peter Horne deus**. Congratulations Peter!



Daytona Draw: The draw was won by **Andrew Strachan** who chose envelope #3. It was bid up to \$35 by **Charles Turton** but the bid was refused. Andrew one of the two \$90-95 prize envelopes in play, resulting in him taking home the 2009 Gold-Plate Proof Set — a Primo Prize. Remember, there is still one in play at the next meeting, be sure to buy tickets!!



Education:

The short Educational Session was a *London Numismatic Society* PowerPoint of **Canadian Fractional Currency**. Many of our SWCS members have collected Shinplasters in the past and it was a interesting session for all.

This presentation was orated by the newly non-bespectacled **Scott Douglas**! He can now drive at night without wearing glasses but cannot grade a coin without Dollar Store 1.5 diopters!!!!



- ♦ **Wed., March 8th, 2017:** **Scott Douglas** will present a *North Shore Numismatic Society* PPT (on disk from ONA) "**Income Tax and Coin Collecting**", as Mike Hollingshead was scheduled but expected to be in Cuban until April 1st.
- ♦ **Wed., April 25th, 2017 **6:30 p.m.**— our official 20th Anniversary DINNER—** no regular meeting in Rockwood, INSTEAD celebration in Guelph (see flyer in this issue). No Education Session unless you count learning how to have FUN—FUN-FUN!!!
- ♦ **Wed. May 3rd, 2017—****Freddy Barsoum** will present ***Egyptian Coins, Banknotes, and Stamps*** (with Pyramids and Great Sphinx on them) assisted by Judy Blackman on PPT slides.
- ♦ **Wed. June 7th, 2017—****Paul Miller** will give a presentation on ***International Banknotes of the Years***.

If you would like to present a numismatic topic, please speak to Scott or Mike, as we are now planning our July-December 2017 meetings. Remember, if you need assistance creating a PPT, we will provide you the assistance (before and during the meeting) if you would like the help.

South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead, John Semedo, and Scott Douglas

Community Reach:

On November 15, 2016, **Mike Hollingshead** visited community agency called "**Shelldale Center**", part of the Onward Willow system.

Mike says, "I sought out an Arabic speaker to identify a 'coin' the SWCS bought. This was completely by accident as I was listening to a program running on my car radio 93.3FM CFRU (UofG) and it reminded me of the wide spectrum of families in that area (emphasis is on FAMILIES for those who want more kids in collecting, but most immigrants are in our target age of 30-50, too). There I met a UofG grad student (**Felix Henoud**) from Lebanon and his wife and he translated the coin (which turned out to be a medallion from Iraq). I happened to have a Canadian Coin News and Whitman folder with 25-30 cents in it and gave it to him (for his son) for his translation work. When I got home I e-mailed our Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec SWSC newsletters to him. That said, **Albert Dayeh** gave me the same translation information as I has e-mailed photos of the piece to him, boy is he spot-on with Arabic!!!" Welcome Felix, so glad you came out, hope to see you at many more meetings! For our December meeting, Mike drove **Felix Henoud**, **Dwayne Spears**, and **Quintino (Tino) Schito** to the meeting with him. Felix enjoyed the evening and speaking Arabic with **Albert Dayeh**.

Paul Miller and **Peter Besler** drove in from Toronto for their first time. They found Scott almost unrecognizable without his aviators! He took some ribbing. Paul is our guest speaker for June 2017.

Scott Douglas presented the SWCS Annual Financials and our NEW Education Policy and NEW Advertising Policy for review, and each member had an opportunity to review it in detail. Once again, the club has a successful year. Many thanks to all our members who volunteer and our dealers who book our shows, as these bi-annual shows allow us to keep our renewal rates unchanged, to provide free refreshments at our meetings, to do special events and surprises for our members, and to give back to our community. Scott also confirmed **Del Murchison** has become a SWCS member. Glad your part of our family Del! This **8 new members in 2016** — guess being recognized Club of the Year draws interest in the club!! **Julaine Scott** moved our public website over to a new server in November. She also e-mailed us her annual report, showing our site is performing well.

Once again **Heather Hoddinott** made our December meeting extra special bringing in goodies to share with everyone.

In addition to the large and generous donations South Wellington Coin Society gave in the summer 2016 to **CAFNE** and the **JD Ferguson Foundation**, the SWCS gave fall 2016

donations to the **Rockwood Library**, **East Wellington Community Services Food Bank (Eramosa-Rockwood)**, and the **Ministry of Royal City Church Christian Life Centre (Daily Bread for Everyone)** programs. Total donations for the year were nearly \$2,500.

Jane Thompson-Wahl from the Food Bank was on hand at our December meeting to accept the gift cards, food, and other supplies donated by SWCS plus those brought individually by the club's members too.



All photos in this club report were take by **John Semedo**.

Upon learning of the SWCS Anniversary dinner coming up in April 2017, **Kevin Day-Thorburn** sent an image of a medallion he purchased at auction about a year ago. As a result, both Kevin and your Editor have been in contact with the **Mandarin Restaurant** head office in Brampton, and are waiting for more details about this medallion.



South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997

Club Report & News reported by Mike Hollingshead, John Semedo, and Scott Douglas

Auction:

Lowell Wierstra is now accepting consignments for April-June 2017 meetings. We will continue our very reasonable consignment rates! Our March auction sheet will appear in our March newsletter. Remember, there will be no Rockwood meeting and no auction for our April gathering, as we are instead taking you to dinner in Guelph.



Hungarian 5 Pengo

In the Australian Numismatic Society's members' on-line auction in December 2016 (closing January 8, 2017), your Editor bid on lot 19. The ANS member selling this lot originally acquired it in Downie's Australian Coin Auction #301 (Feb. 2009) part of lot 1344 (#15 I 61380, code 230). This ProofLike coin is 1929BP, Pattern 5 Pengo (Silver PN 171, diameter 36mm). It 2009 it sold for 75 AUD. Obverse: Angels supporting crown above shield; and, Reverse: St. Ladislav on horseback left. I believe the listing should read "restrrike" and I have contacted ANS requesting verification and listing amendment. Original patterns exist without the UP under the crown. The restrikes were minted in the 1960s.

Heritage Auctions lot #64219 lists this as Hungary Republic Silver Proof Restrrike 5 Pengo 1929 BP-UP PR 67 Cameo X-PN12.1.

NGC lists this 50.3g UP Proof Silver Kilppe Restrrike market at \$400 USD (X# Pn12.2).



This one is from Daniel Frank Sedwick LLC / Treasure Auction #8 (Oct. 2010) and is not listed as a restrrike, but a 1929BP Proof Silver Pattern with toning, and said no price listed in KM. It sold for \$158 USD plus premium.

Here's an original pattern, as you can see there is no UP under the crown. Many coins of Hungary through 1948, especially 1925-1945, have been restruck in recent times. These may be identified by a rosette in the vicinity of the mintmark. Restrrike mintages of KM440-449, 451-458, 468-469, 475-477, 480-483, 494, 496-498 are usually 1000 pieces, later date mintages are not known.



Local Clubs & Numismatic Associations Upcoming Shows & Conventions

*For other shows (out-of-province, out-of-country, dealers, auction houses),
go to Canadian Coin News Events Page, <http://canadiancoinnews.com/events/>*

- ♦ **2017-JANUARY 13-15 (3 DAYS): UNIPEX STAMP & COIN SHOW** at the Montecassino Hotel, 3710 Chesswood Drive, Downsview, ON M6L 2C4. Contact Susan Cartini: 416-242-5900, or e-mail susancartini@rogers.com.
- ♦ **2017-FEBRUARY 5: SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO NUMISMATICS COIN AND COLLECTABLES (S.W.O.N.)** at the Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St., Paris, ON N3L 1V4, hours 9-4, 35 dealers, hot and cold food and beverages. Contact Ted Bailey: 519-442-3474, or e-mail tedscollectables@bellnet.ca.
- ♦ **2017-FEBRUARY 18: COIN-A-RAMA** at the Five Points Mall, 285 Taunton Rd. East, Oshawa, ON L1J 2B4, hours 9:30-5, free hourly draws and admission. Contact Sharon Maclean: 905-728-1352, or e-mail papman@bell.net, <http://www.oshawacoinclub.ca>.
- ♦ **2017-FEBRUARY 19: COIN AND STAMP SHOW** at the Elks Club, 325 Elks Ln., North Bay, ON P1B 7T6, free admission and parking. Contact John Burns: 705-490-0042 or e-mail jburns29@cogeco.ca.
- ♦ **2017-FEBRUARY 25: CANADIAN TIRE COUPON COLLECTORS SHOW** at the Hyatt Regency, 370 King St. West, Toronto, ON M5V 1J9, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., admission and parking free. Contact Roger Fox: 905-898-7677 or e-mail r_fox@bell.net, website <http://www.ctccc.ca>.
- ♦ **2017-FEBRUARY 25-26 (2 day): CANADA'S NATIONAL CON SHOW** at the Hyatt Regency, 370 King St. West, Toronto, ON M5V 1J9, Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Admission \$7 (under 16 Free), Friday pre-view auction, official auctioneer The Canadian Numismatic Company. Contact Brian R. Smith: 416-705-5348 or e-mail brian@torex.net, website <http://www.torex.net>.



Out of the Mouths of Babes

A coin collector (Joannie) invited some other collectors to dinner.. Included were a couple and their little girl.

At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?'

'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied.

'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the coin collector Joannie answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'



A coin dealer (and mother) while getting ready to leave to go work a coin show, was preparing "Silver Dollar" pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.. 'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, ' Ryan , you be Jesus !'

Wen you pai for your piso pie lats

Lei cash down, ore hao about ducats?

Som sho have a yen

To pe with dam sen

Bit for fun, to be franc, I use kyats.

I know it's not a joke and some of it is a stretch, but what the heller.

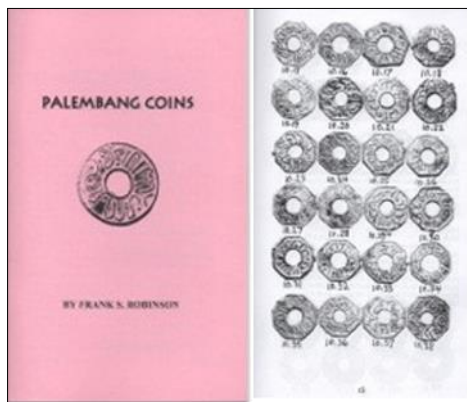


Check out this video to learn how to reduce the value of a \$250,000 coin down to \$10,000 in a few seconds!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkOF_sQY-kM

Pitis of Palembang

Tin Pitis are from the Sultanate of Palembang. Your Editor is a member of the Australian Numismatic Society. The ANS holds on-line member auctions a few times a year. For the December 2016 auction lot 31 is for a Palembang Coins catalog signed author Frank S. Robinson, and the auction has several other lots of rare or unusual catalogs nearly all signed by the creators. Of course, I bid on all of them, but won't know until after the January 8, 2017 ANS meeting if I am successful. I have never heard of Tin Pitis before, so I had to learn more about these coins and the author.



The author explains on his website, that the Sultanate of Palembang on the Island of Sumatra (Dutch East Indies, today's Indonesia) issued coins until 1821. Nearly all are lead-tin and uniface, mostly inscribed in Arabic. While previous references gave them only sketchy and inaccurate coverage, with two nineteenth century works each illustrating fewer than 30 varieties, a comprehensive catalog has been prepared on this often neglected numismatic material, and Frank released it in the fall of 2015. Frank specializes in Ancient Coins and Foreign Coins – both as a researcher and cataloger and as a dealer. This picture is of the cover and a page in Frank's catalog. Frank compiled this little book, with background information, properly cataloging 291 distinct numbered varieties, all with clear enlarged photographs, plus rarity ratings on a ten-point scale. The work is the culmination of a project intensively analyzing 35,000 Palembang coins.

Frank, a former New York State administrative law judge, is a long-time dealer in ancient and world coins, and author of seven previous books including "Confessions of a Numismatic Fanatic", and "The Case for Rational Optimism." To order a Palembang Coins catalog direct from the author, write to Mr. Frank S. Robinson, Box 8600, Albany, NY 12208 USA or e-mail him at frank@fsrcoin.com.

Palembang is one of the oldest cities in Indonesia. It is located on the Musi river on the Island of Sumatra. The Sultanate of Palembang was established in the early 17th century by Javanese nobles fleeing from dynastic intrigues after the collapse of the Sultanate of Demak. It soon became one of the greatest agricultural and trade centers in the Malay area. The uniface coins have crude Malay-Arabic inscriptions around a center hold. Many Palembang pitis are not dated, NvdC gives a first date 1061 AH (1650/1 AD) and as last date 1219 AH (1804/5 AD).

To learn more about the Battle of Palembang, watch You Tube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cY3qiYxSRZI>. The Battle of Palembang was a battle of the Pacific theatre of World War II. It occurred near Palembang, on Sumatra, on 13–15 February 1942. The Royal Dutch Shell oil refineries at nearby Pladju (or Pladjoe) were the major objectives for the Empire of Japan in the Pacific War, because of an oil embargo imposed on Japan by the United States, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. With the area's abundant fuel supply and airfield, Palembang offered significant potential as a military base to both the Allies and the Japanese.

Airborne attack

While the Allied planes attacked the Japanese ships on 13 February, Kawasaki Ki-56 transport planes of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd *Chutai*, Imperial Japanese Army Air Force (IJAAF), dropped *Teishin Shudan* (Raiding Group) paratroopers over Pangkalan Benteng airfield. At the same time Mitsubishi Ki-21 bombers from the 98th *Sentai* dropped supplies for paratroopers. The formation was escorted by a large force of Nakajima Ki-43 fighters from the 59th and 64th *Sentai*.

As many as 180 men from the Japanese 2nd Parachute Regiment, under Colonel Seiichi Kume, dropped between Palembang and Pangkalan Benteng, and more than 90 men came down west of the refineries at Pladjoe. Although the Japanese paratroopers failed to capture the Pangkalan Benteng airfield, at the Pladjoe oil refinery they managed to gain possession of the entire complex, which was undamaged. A makeshift counter-attack by *Landstorm* troops and anti-aircraft gunners from Praboemoelih managed to retake the complex but took heavy losses. The planned demolition failed to do any serious damage to the refinery, but the oil stores were set ablaze. Two hours after the first drop, another 60 Japanese paratroopers were dropped near Pangkalan Benteng airfield.



On 14 February, the surviving Japanese paratroopers advanced to the Musi, Salang and Telang rivers, near Palembang.

Amphibious assault

The main Japanese invasion force, an amphibious assault fleet under Vice-Admiral Jisaburo Ozawa of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN), was on its way from Cam Ranh Bay in French Indochina. It was made up of the Imperial Japanese Army's 229th Infantry Regiment and one battalion from the 230th Infantry Regiment. A small advance party set out eight transports escorted by the light cruiser *Sendai* and four destroyers. The main force followed in 14 transports, escorted by the heavy cruiser *Chokai* and four destroyers. The covering force included the aircraft carrier *Ryujo*, four heavy cruisers, one light cruiser and three destroyers. Additional air cover was provided by land-based IJN planes and the IJAAF 3rd Air Division. On the morning of 13 February, a river boat commandeered by the British Royal Navy, HMS *Li Wo* – under Lieutenant Thomas Wilkinson – ferrying personnel and equipment between Singapore and the Dutch East Indies, ran into the Japanese fleet. Although *Li Wo* was armed only with a 4-inch (100 mm) gun and two machineguns, its crew fired at the Japanese troop transport ships, setting one on fire and damaging several others, while under fire from the Japanese cruisers. This action continued for 90 minutes until the *Li Wo* ran out of ammunition. Wilkinson then ordered the ramming of the nearest transport, before his ship was destroyed by Japanese fire. Wilkinson received a posthumous Victoria Cross (VC), the highest award for gallantry in the British Commonwealth, and the only VC awarded in the Dutch East Indies campaign. On 15 February, an ABDA naval force of five cruisers, HNLMS *De Ruter*, HNLMS *Java* and HNLMS *Tromp*, HMS *Exeter*, HMAS *Hobart* and 10 destroyers, under Admiral Karel Doorman, made an abortive attempt to intercept the Japanese force. Planes from *Ryujo* and land-based aircraft made a series of attacks on the Allied ships, forcing them to withdraw to the south of Sumatra. As the Japanese landing force approached Sumatra, the remaining Allied aircraft attacked it, and the Japanese transport ship *Otawa Maru* was sunk. Hurricanes flew up the rivers, machine-gunning Japanese landing craft. However, on the afternoon of 15 February, all Allied aircraft were ordered to Java, where a major Japanese attack was anticipated, and the Allied air units had withdrawn from southern Sumatra by the evening of 16 February 1942. Other personnel were evacuated via Oosthaven (now Bandar Lampung) by ships to Java or India.

- 1** - Period: dated 1113 AH = 1701 AD, Obv. Sultan Fi Bilad Palembang Sanat 1113 AH, Rev. blank, tin/Pitis – note: no hole.
- 2** - Period: dated 1198 AH = 1784 AD, Obv. Haza Fulus Palembang Sanat 1198 (Piece of copper of the Kingdom of Palembang, year 1198 AH = 1784 AD), Rev. blank, copper/Pitis.
- 3** - Period: dated 1203 AH = 1789 AD, Obv. Sultan Palembang Sanat 1203 (Sultan of Palembang, year 1203 AH = 1789 AD), Rev. blank, tin/Pitis.
- 4** - Period: undated circa 18th century, Obv. Alamat Sultain, Rev. blank, tin/Pitis (reference Millies 207).
- 5** - Period: dated 1219 AH = 1803 AD (Sultan Muhammad Baharuddin 1778-1803), Obv. Masruf fi bilad Palembang 1219 AH, Rev. blank, tin/Pitis.

1



2

3



4

5



The Imperial Optical Company

[DYK #086]



.....at one time one of the largest optical lens-making establishments in the world was a Canadian company that began with a single shop in New Brunswick?

Most Canadians will have heard of the Imperial Optical Company whether they wear eyeglasses or not. Like many Canadian companies a memento was created in 1967 to convey pride in being Canadian and sharing in the celebration of 100 years of progress.

Percy Hermant, along with his parents, immigrated to Canada from Europe in 1898. He was sixteen years old. He studied optics in Boston, Massachusetts before opening his first shop in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1900. Within five years Hermant had branches in Toronto, Hamilton and London, Ontario. At the start of World War I German lens imports had been halted by the government. Hermant used this opportunity to purchase a lens plant in Rochester, New York. He had the machinery dismantled and moved across the border to Toronto. After the war Hermant found himself well established and in a position to compete with German and US companies in overseas markets. During World War II Hermant's factory was able to supply bombsight lenses as well as many other materials for the war effort. When the war came to an end in 1945 Hermant's company, Imperial Optical, continued steady expansion. When Percy Hermant died his Optical companies had existed for 59 years and had 78 branches in Canada.

Percy Hermant was a philanthropist donating to many scholarships in Montreal and Toronto. Percy focused his charitable offerings toward youth and embraced the promotion of education, music and better hospitals.

When Percy Hermant died in July 1959, at the age of 77, he was the president of the firm he had created, Imperial Optical, one of the largest lens-making establishments in the world. After his death the company passed into the hands of his son Sydney. In 1965 Sydney sold controlling interest in Imperial Optical to Harcourt Carter Optical who, by 1991, had assumed complete control of Percy Hermant's firm, Imperial Optical Co.

This Imperial Optical centennial medal is nickel-silver (36mm) and is encased in Lucite. The medal was struck by Wellings Mint of Toronto from a design by Emmanuel Hahn. The medal is also known in bronze and gold plated.



The Hermant Building at 19 Dundas Square, Toronto was designed by Bond & Smith Architects in 1913. When it was completed, this 10-storey building was the tallest in the city. The Hermant Building originally housed the headquarters of Imperial Optical which at one time controlled over 80 percent of the optical industry in Canada.

continued next page...

South Wellington Coin Club founded 1997



This article is written by:

Scott E. Douglas



2017 SWCS Membership Renewal Form

Print Your Full Name: _____

Print Your E-mail Address: _____

Your House Area Code + Phone No. () -

Your Mobile Area Code + Phone No. () -

Your postal mailing address + postal code: _____

renew your
membership

Tick Off Membership Type:

- ☐ Regular \$10
- ☐ Couple \$12
- ☐ Junior (14 to age 18) \$5
- ☐ Under 14 Free

*Give at a meeting or mail to Scott E. Douglas, SWCS President / Treasurer,
c/o 273 Mill Street East, Acton, Ontario, L7J 1J7, Canada*



GUELPH

www.southwellingtoncoinsociety.ca



South Wellington Coin Society

Annual Spring Show
Saturday, MAY 6TH, 2017
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

* BUY * SELL * TRADE * EVALUATIONS *
AT OVER 35 DEALER TABLES

Admission Only \$3 (free under age 16):
includes Draw for a Gold Coin!
Lunch Counter, Free Parking, Wheelchair
Access

Location: **Branch 234—Colonel John McCrae Memorial Legion**
57 Watson Parkway South, Guelph, On. N1L 1E3

Wide Variety: Foreign and Canadian Coins, Medals, Tokens, Banknotes,
Script, Canadian Tire Coupons, Coin Supplies
and More. Something for Everyone!



Mark Your Calendar For Our Other Upcoming Shows

FIRST Saturday in May
FOURTH Saturday in September

all held at **Branch 234— Colonel John
McCrae Memorial Legion:**

FUTURE SHOWS:

Spring:

May 5, 2018

Fall:

September 23, 2017

September 22, 2018



Contact:

Mike Hollingshead
cholling@uoguelph.ca
Phone: (519) 823-2646



SWCS

20th Anniversary Dinner

(in place of our regular meeting)



Wednesday, April 5th, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
(Note: restaurant closes at 9:30 p.m.)

Invitation to ALL “dues paid up” South Wellington Coin Society Members
(and if your mate is not already a member, you may bring one mate as a guest).

Your Executive has approved the club sponsoring the cost of the buffet (each person—regularly \$24.99 / \$19.99 age 65+ with proof of seniors card, plus taxes and tip) and non-alcoholic beverages. You will however, be responsible for any alcoholic beverages you consume and they will be billed separately. We will have some other surprises up our sleeve for you to experience at this special dinner to celebrate our 20th anniversary, so you won't want to miss this event!!!! We are required to have a minimum attendance of 60 for the special room we reserved. The room can hold approximately 80 comfortably.

We will also be inviting some numismatic dignitaries too.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY AS WE MUST GIVE THE RESTAURANT THE COUNT FOR RESERVED SEATING. PLEASE CONFIRM BY E-MAIL sdouglas333@gmail.com OR PHONE 519-853-3812 TO SCOTT DOUGLAS WHETHER OR NOT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING, BY NO LATER THAN WED. MARCH 1ST, 2017 (i.e. our NEXT meeting).

20th Anniversary Dinner Location: Mandarin Chinese Buffet Restaurant, 565 Woodlawn Road West, Guelph, On. N1K 1E9, Phone: 519-837-9000, Managers: David Kuang, Lisa Su, and Cody Wang. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays evenings. Website: <https://mandarinrestaurant.com/guelph/>.

